

Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT)

February Ice Storm **SITUATION REPORT # 2** 0800 Hours 14 February 2007

New Information in Bold Italics

WEATHER FORECAST

Short term: *Significant precipitation will move out of the Commonwealth by mid-morning, February 14, 2007. Accumulated ice will remain due to below freezing temperatures; particularly in the Shenandoah Valley. Temperatures elsewhere will be in the upper 30's, with wind speeds gusting to as much as 45 mph. Temperatures will drop to the upper teens at night. Wind chill factors will be near 0.*

Long term: *Another precipitation event is possible for the weekend. A warming trend is expected next week.*

EXECUTIVE ACTION

State of Emergency: As of 1308 hours 13 February Governor Timothy Kaine declared a State of Emergency due to the ice storm.

EOC Activation: *The Virginia Department of Emergency Management/Virginia Emergency Operations Center is at Response Operations as the first major Winter Storm of the season impacts the Commonwealth.* The VEOC continues to monitor the storm and consult with NWS offices on current updates. The VEOC conducted conference calls Tuesday, 13 February with State Agencies, NWS offices, and localities in 6 VDEM Regions. At 0700 hours 14 February the VEOC was further augmented.

Protective Actions: **Local Emergency Declared:**
Page County – 13 February

EOC Activations:
Rockbridge County – 14 February at 0100 hours
Alexandria City – 13 February at 1700 hours
Shenandoah County – 13 February at 1500 hours
Prince William County – 13 February at 1900 hours
Loudoun County – 13 February at 0330 hours

OPERATIONS SECTION

State Warning Point: *Monitoring the storm and consulting with NWS offices on current updates.*

Local Liaison: Regional Coordinators were deployed to the Staunton, Roanoke, and Shenandoah/Winchester areas. These liaisons will be available to advise local communities in response activities.

EMERGENCY SERVICES BRANCH

ESF 4 – Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) – Two groups of 5 chainsaw crews and 2 humvees are deployed to the City of Harrisonburg and the VDOT Stephens City Construction Yard.

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ESF 13 – Virginia National Guard (VNG) – 70 out of 150 authorized personnel are pre-positioned. 2.5 and 5.5 ton vehicles and humvees were also pre-staged along the I-81 corridor to aid in the rescue of stranded motorists and homebound citizens.

HUMAN SERVICES BRANCH

ESF 6 – American Red Cross (ARC) – American Red Cross is monitoring the weather event across the Commonwealth. The 5 chapters covering the I-81 corridor report that there are approximately 6 shelters identified with reasonable access to I-81. Staff is on standby. Access to shelters by staff and feeding partners may be an issue and assistance may be needed.

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT BRANCH

ESF 1 – Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) – Two staging areas are setup in Staunton. VA Department of Transportation has positioned 650 snow removal and sand/chemical trucks in preparation of the storm.

ESF 12 – Energy – *As of 0615 hours Virginia Dominion Power reported 38,711 customers without power and Rappahannock Coop reported 20,125 customers without power. As of 0615 hours Appalachian Power Company and Novec were reporting no major power outages.*

LOGISTICS SECTION

Notified state resource contractors and have identified 250+ available generators and 100-125 heater units within the state. Also, 9-13 40-person warming units were placed on standby. Additional contract chainsaw, fueling, and power installation teams were located and they can be deployed. Logistics is utilizing the previously submitted critical infrastructure reports from localities within the ice warning and winter storm watch to determine potential generator needs. Logistics is seeking information from localities on shelter status and potential distribution sites. Localities must make resource requests from the state through the Local Liaisons; state agencies should go through the mission assignment system.

PLANNING SECTION

ESF 5 - Emergency Management – Conducting State Agency and Region wide conference calls, preparing daily situation reports, and an incident action plan.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ESF 15 – Public Information – *The VPIC will be operational beginning 14 February from 0800 hours to 1800 hours.* The Joint Information Center (JIC) drafted a news release for distribution by the Governor's office on state preparations and responded to several media inquiries.

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Region VI: City of Roanoke is prepared to open a shelter along the I-81 corridor.

NEIGHBORING JURISDICTIONS

Washington, DC Federal Government is on a two hour delay for 14 February. Reagan National Airport is closed. Washington, DC has enacted their snow emergency plan.
Maryland State Emergency Operations Center is activated at Level II.

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